

ICRC confirms prisoners held back

GENEVA (R) — Several detainees on the list of prisoners exchanged for six Israeli soldiers last month have been held back from the swap, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said Tuesday. An ICRC statement said one Palestinian, Ziad Abu 'Ein, was among several unreleased prisoners from the list of over 4,400. But a spokesman would not say how many prisoners had been held back. Palestinian sources put the figure at 37. It said Mr. Abu 'Ein was registered by Red Cross delegates at Tel Aviv airport, along with others being freed, before leaving for Algiers. "However, at the last minute he was taken by the Israeli authorities from a bus driving him and other prisoners to a waiting aircraft," the ICRC said. Mr. Abu 'Ein had since been visited by the ICRC in an Israeli prison. "This is not an isolated case," it added.

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King denounces Kuwait blasts

AMMAN (J.T.) — Upon directives from His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday made a telephone call to the emir of Kuwait. Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, asking about the circumstances and specifics of a series of bomb blasts in Kuwait Monday, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. Prince Hassan conveyed to Sheikh Jaber the King's denunciation of the terrorist acts and condolences for the victims' families, and wished to injured speedy recovery, Petra said. Sheikh Jaber asked Prince Hassan to convey his gratitude, and appreciation for the King's goodwill gesture, and expressed Kuwait's genuine desire for cooperation with Jordan in tracing the criminal acts and combating similar ones in defence of the region's stability, the agency added.

Sheikh Hamad visits air base

AMMAN (J.T.) — Bahraini Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad Ibn Isa Ibn Salman Al Khalifeh, commander-in-chief of the Bahraini armed forces, Tuesday visited the Martyr Muwaffaq Al Salti airbase and was briefed on the establishment and duties of the base, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. Sheikh Hamad also visited the Shomari Wild Life Reserve in Azraq, and toured some of its sections. Petra said. He was accompanied on the tour by Royal Jordanian Air Force Commander Brigadier Ehsan Shuhuda.

Rumsfeld in UAE

ABU DHABI (R) — United States Middle East envoy Doood Rumsfeld had talks Tuesday with United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan. The official Emirates News Agency said Sheikh Zayed urged Washington to pursue a balanced and unbiased policy in the Middle East and to intensify its efforts to achieve peace and stability in the region.

Israel arrests Arabs for alleged attacks

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli security forces have arrested 15 Israeli Arabs accused of involvement in sabotaging water lines in northern Israel and stoning Jewish settlers in the Galilee, officials said Tuesday. A number of other Israeli Arabs were rounded up in recent months for allegedly destroying property belonging to Jews, but officials decided to say whether they were still being held or had been released after questioning.

Health services better, says Malhas

AMMAN (J.T.) — Health Minister Zuhair Malhas has said that the introduction of proper water purification and health awareness in Jordan has helped improve the health services in the country. In an interview with the Jordan Times last week Dr. Malhas said that Jordan suffers from the presence of rabid animals but not rabies itself. The health minister also stressed the importance of health education which he said is an ongoing process in Jordan but "there is need to expand it particularly where diseases can be prevented."

Full text of the interview on page 5.

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U.S. calls on Israel to allow safe evacuation

Israeli gunboats bombard Tripoli

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (Agencies) — Israeli gunboats Tuesday bombarded Palestinian positions along the north Lebanese coast as the United States called on Israel to permit the safe evacuation of Yasser Arafat and his forces from Lebanon.

Ahmad Abdut Rahman, spokesman for Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Arafat, said three Israeli gunboats bombarded PLO positions held by Arafat loyalists in the beach area and the port on the northern approaches to Tripoli.

He said the guerrillas returned fire from coastal artillery positions.

The state-run Beirut Radio quoted its Tripoli correspondent as saying the Israeli naval attack began at 3:15 p.m. (1315 GMT) and struck Palestinian positions in the port as well as targets just south of Tripoli.

Mr. Abdut Rahman told Reuters by telephone from his office in central Tripoli that the shelling was intense during the first half hour but said shells were later falling at the rate of one a minute.

The Palestinian news agency WAFB issued a communiqué saying Mr. Arafat's gunners scored a direct hit on an Israeli ship, hit it on fire. It said the attacking ships withdrew farther out to sea after coming under artillery fire.

An Israeli military spokesman in Tel Aviv confirmed the attacks and said the ships came under artillery fire but suffered no hits.

Israel has condemned the Uni-

3 Israelis wounded in S. Lebanon ambush

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Three Israeli soldiers were wounded in southern Lebanon Tuesday by a roadside bomb that exploded as they were passing in a vehicle, witnesses said.

The bomb went off at the southern entrance to Sidon, destroying the vehicle and damaging nearby buildings.

Israeli forces closed the road, brought in helicopters and began searching the area.

Earlier Tuesday, a hand grenade was thrown in the centre of Sidon but failed to explode. Israeli troops briefly detained scores of passers-by for questioning.

Two Israeli soldiers were wounded in southern Lebanon Tuesday by the roadside bomb, an Israeli army spokesman said in Tel Aviv.

Roadside charges have become a frequent weapon of groups opposed to Israel's 18-month-long occupation of south Lebanon. Some 34 Israeli soldiers have been killed and many more wounded in ambush attacks this year.

Anti-Israeli forces in southern Lebanon have grown increasingly daring in their attacks on the occupation forces. The Israelis have responded by arresting large numbers of Shi'ite Muslims, who make up the vast majority of southerners.

Mr. Gemayel, who has held broad consultations on national

Gemayel to ask Britain to retain role in MNF

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel left for London Tuesday to seek reassurances that Britain's 110-man contingent to the Beirut multinational force will not be withdrawn before the Lebanese army is ready to take over.

He will also discuss with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher his efforts to reconcile Lebanon's warring factions and achieve the withdrawal of Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian forces from Lebanon.

The United States, France, Italy and Britain, the four nations of the Multi-National Force (MNF), have urged Mr. Gemayel to speed up efforts to achieve reconciliation.

The Italian and British governments have been under particular pressure to withdraw their contingents because of fears they could be dragged into a U.S.-Syrian conflict over Lebanon.

Italy is debating whether to reduce the size of its contingent and has said its commitment to the force depends on Mr. Gemayel's success in achieving reconciliation soon. Mrs. Thatcher last week ruled out a unilateral British pullout.

At a cabinet meeting Tuesday, Mr. Gemayel again rejected an offer by Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan to step down so that his cabinet of technocrats can be replaced by a national unity government including Lebanon's rival factions.

Mr. Gemayel, who has held broad consultations on national

wounded when his truck hit a lamp post immediately after the ambush.

The convoy, made up of one jeep and two small trucks, was driving along Corniche Mazraa, one of Beirut's main arteries at the time of the attack. Colonel De Longueaux said.

It was the second attack on French troops in Beirut in three days. On Sunday a lone gunman shot at a French jeep on the Beirut waterfront but no one was hurt.

The paratrooper was the 79th French serviceman to die in Lebanon since the MNF arrived more than a year ago.

French soldier killed in Beirut attack

BEIRUT (R) — A French paratrooper was killed Tuesday in an ambush on a French convoy passing through Central Beirut, a French military spokesman said.

Colonel Philippe de Longueaux, spokesman for the 2,000-strong French contingent to the Multi-National Force (MNF) here, said gunmen in the street and in nearby buildings opened fire on the convoy.

The French returned fire and the attackers escaped, he added.

Lebanese security sources said the paratrooper was shot in the head but the colonel could not confirm this.

Some radio reports said he was

U.S. ships open fire on Syrian positions in Lebanon

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian troops in Lebanon came under U.S. naval bombardment Tuesday as Syrian anti-aircraft batteries fired at American warplanes, a Syrian military spokesman said here.

In Washington, the White House Tuesday called on Israel to permit the safe evacuation of Mr. Arafat and his forces from Lebanon.

Spokesman Larry Speakes said the planned withdrawal under the United Nations flag of Mr. Arafat's troops from Tripoli "is consistent with our long-standing policy of seeking a withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon."

Mr. Speakes said the U.S. position had been made clear privately in recent days to the Israeli government, which has refused to say publicly whether its gunboats will allow Mr. Arafat to leave.

"We think arrangements should be worked out for them to leave unhampered," Mr. Speakes said.

Meanwhile Israeli Vice-Premier David Levy was quoted Tuesday as saying Israel has no intention of attacking Mr. Arafat and his men if they leave Tripoli by sea.

"It is inconceivable that Israel agrees to the departure from Tripoli of those who resort to blind terrorism and who boast about it," Mr. Levy told the French daily *Le Monde* in an interview.

"But one must not conclude from this that Israel will attack. My country has not the slightest intention of doing so," he was quoted as saying during a visit to Geneva Monday.

It is understood that Israel's reparation since returning from recent talks in Washington, considered conditions were not yet ripe for a change of government, an official statement said.

Mr. Gemayel's two-day London visit follows his talks in Washington, Rome, Paris and Riyadh after a national reconciliation conference in Geneva last month.

The conference gave him a mandate to our Western and Arab capitals to seek an acceptable formula for ridding Lebanon of occupying foreign forces, to replace the May 17 accord with Israel.

"This flight was pre-planned, because at the same time, two American warships west of Jounieh fired on a number of our positions for 15 minutes," he said.

"In this attack, one military vehicle was damaged," he added.

Syrians stage protest against U.S., Israel

DAMASCUS (R) — Thousands of Syrians joined a government-sponsored rally against the United States and Israel Tuesday, but the authorities barred the marchers from the U.S. and French embassies.

Syrian security men armed with assault rifles closed roads leading to the two embassies. No cars were allowed into the area and the marchers were kept to routes away from the missions.

The U.S. and French embassies in Kuwait were among half a dozen targets of car bombs Monday.

"Iraq will choose selected Iranian targets and hit them by military means in retaliation for its desecratory crime against Kuwait yesterday," INA quoted the military spokesman as saying.

He added: "I hope I shall be able to convince Mrs. Thatcher the British presence is important to us. Not only for us but also for the whole region because Lebanon is a starting point for peace in the area and also a starting point for new turmoil."

Mr. Gemayel told the news conference that Lebanon hoped to buy British planes to supplement its ageing Hawker Hunter fighter-bombers.

Fifty-eight died in the suicide bomb attack on a French paratrooper base on Oct. 23. A twin attack on a U.S. Marine headquarters killed 240 U.S. servicemen.

The French troops, the most visible in Beirut, have frequently been the targets of ambushes and attacks from gunmen in passing cars.

The attacks intensified after French warplanes struck at targets in the mountains southeast of the capital in September and in November at a barracks used by radical pro-Iranian militiamen in the eastern Bekaa Valley.

Explaining the one-day delay, Gen. Evren told reporters he had used his constitutional right to examine the list.

U.S. Vice-President George Bush said Monday that it is "pretty hard" for the United States to remain neutral in the Iran-Iraq war because of "evidence" that Iran played a part in the Beirut attacks.

Mr. Bush said that the "fan-



His Majesty King Hussein is being greeted by French Defence Minister Charles Hernu (right). (photo)

Hussein hopes for joint peace efforts with Arafat

PARIS (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein said Tuesday he hoped to work together with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat for peace in the Middle East.

He told reporters the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman, who is besieged by Syrian-backed rebels in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli, was always welcome in Jordan.

"At 1507 Syrian and Lebanese time (1307 GMT) two U.S. F-14s flew over our troops in the Metn district. Our defences fired on them and forced them to turn back towards the sea," he said.

"This flight was pre-planned, because at the same time, two American warships west of Jounieh fired on a number of our positions for 15 minutes," he said.

"In this attack, one military vehicle was damaged," he added.

"If that is the case, I am sure our

joint efforts will lead to success and may well establish an ideal relationship, a vision of the future, that might effect events in a positive manner."

The King, speaking to JTV reporter Adel Malek after meeting the French president, praised France's commitment to peace in the Middle East and President Mitterrand's broad vision on international and regional issues.

The sources said they expected Mr. Arafat to leave Tripoli in the next few days on board Greek ships which they understood were being sent to the area in the next 24 hours.

The PLO leader would then visit Palestinian forces in North Africa and Yemen before going to Amman for talks with King Hussein, they said.

Iraq blames Iran for Kuwait bombings, threatens retaliation

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Iraq Tuesday accused Iran of being behind a wave of bombings in Kuwait Monday and said it would launch military attacks on Iranian targets in retaliation.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) received here, quoted a military spokesman as saying the bombs, which killed at least six people and injured over 60, were "the latest crime (Iran) has committed... in its aggression against Iraqi civilian targets and border towns."

"Iraq will choose selected Iranian targets and hit them by military means in retaliation for its desecratory crime against Kuwait yesterday," INA quoted the military spokesman as saying.

Iran denies role

Iran Tuesday denied it had any involvement in the blasts.

Teheran Radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation in London, quoted a

U.S. spokesman as saying:

"These attacks have no connection whatsoever with the Islamic republic of Iran, and attributing them to Iran is part and parcel of a comprehensive plot by the USA and its agents against the Islamic revolution."

Parliament condemns attack

The Kuwaiti parliament Tuesday condemned as criminal the wave of bomb blasts in Kuwait that have sent shock waves through the Arab Gulf states.

At least four people died and over 60 were injured in the attacks on targets which included the U.S. and French embassies, a Kuwait government office, Kuwait airport and a major industrial complex.

The shadowy "Islamic Jihad" (holy war), said it had carried out the attacks. A group of that name had also claimed responsibility for devastating attacks on the U.S. embassy and American and

French military units in Beiru

French military units in Beiru this year in which a total of more than 360 people died.

Gulf leaders quickly conferred by telephone and voiced support for Kuwait.

Attacker reportedly dead

The driver of the booby-trapped truck that shattered an area of the embassy compound was killed in the blast. Kuwait City Governor Sheikh Salem Sabah Al Nasser said.

Earlier reports by the Kuwait News Agency KUNA said the driver had survived and been taken to hospital.

Sheikh Salem told reporters the government did not know the driver's nationality, but said that people detained after the attacks were still being questioned.

U.S. says it cannot prevent suicide attacks; Kuwait bombings bring insecurity to Gulf, page 2

U.S. links blasts to Gulf war

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The multiple bomb attacks in Kuwait Monday were apparently set off by extremists as a warning to Gulf states not to back

MIDDLE EAST

U.N. urged to condemn pact by U.S., Israel

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A proposal was circulated that the U.N. General Assembly strongly condemn the agreements reached between President Reagan and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

The text of the proposal, the customary preliminary to a formal draft resolution, would have the 158-nation body urge the United States to "reconsider its position on the memorandum of understanding with Israel of Nov. 30, 1981 and the recent accords."

The preamble referred to alarm over the agreements, made during Mr. Shamir's recent Washington visit, and to deep concern over "the strengthening and widening of the agreements on strategic co-operation" between the two nations.

The assembly would be asked to express "its grave concern that these agreements threaten the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of states in and in the vicinity of the region."

Following private consultations led by the "rejectionist" states a formal draft resolution was expected to be tabled later this week.

In the meantime, the assembly continued general debate on the Middle East situation Monday, with more delegates criticising

'Peacekeepers have joined reprisal game'

By Michael Berlin

UNITED NATIONS — Brian Urquhart, who helped to invent U.N. peace-keeping and is now its foremost practitioner, says the present Multinational Force has lost its capacity to help bring peace to Lebanon.

This has happened, he said, because by "drifting into the reprisal game" the force of U.S., French, Italian and British troops has become a hybrid and no longer has a sense of its mission.

"I think the moment you get into the reprisal game you're lost — it's the beginning of the end," says Mr. Urquhart, a 64-year-old Briton who was the second person hired to work for the U.N. in 1945. — Washington Post.

Mubarak rules out referendum

NEW YORK (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak has said that he would not hold a national referendum on whether Egypt should return its ambassador to Israel, the New York Times reported from Cairo Monday.

Al Ahram, the semi-official daily, quoted Mr. Mubarak as saying he would ask the Egyptian people whether the ambassador should return to Tel Aviv after Israeli forces withdrew from Lebanon.

U.S. says it cannot prevent suicide attacks

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. State Department says it cannot prevent embassy bombings like Monday's truck bomb attack on the American embassy in Kuwait which killed four people.

State Department spokesman Alan Romberg acknowledged no way had been found to stop such embassy bombings but said "we can take measures to try to minimise the risks."

Mr. Romberg refused to say whether officials expected further U.S. embassy bombing attempts or to specify what security measures had been taken at the Kuwait embassy following bomb threats received before Monday's attack.

Mr. Romberg said U.S. Marines and Kuwait national guardsmen guarding the embassy gate probably did not have time to shoot at the truck because "my understanding is that it careened around a corner and smashed through the gate."

U.S. officials could not confirm press reports that a group calling itself "Islamic Jihad" (islamic holy war) had taken responsibility for the bombings.

"We have been concerned for many months about terrorist threats and the possibility of terrorist attack, and we will continue to take measures which we feel are appropriate," Mr. Romberg said.

But he said "there are obviously limits to what you can do and still provide the services and perform the functions that an embassy is supposed to provide and perform."

Greek tanker capsizes

DOHA (R) — A fire which raged for four days in the Gulf on a fully-laden Greek oil tanker, the Pericles, was extinguished by seawater after the ship capsized Monday night, a senior port official said Tuesday.

Doha's harbour master, Galum Gankeer, told Reuters: "The fire died down completely at 1830 GMT yesterday (Monday) and the tanker is now resting upside down on the seabed with only 30 feet

metres of it above water."

Fire broke out in the engine room and living quarters of the 38,915 gross ton tanker on Friday after it had sailed from Umm Said port, 40 kilometres south of the Qatari capital of Doha, laden with 46,000 tons of crude oil.

Mr. Gankeer said seawater put out the fire as the ship turned over. Salvage teams would try to recover oil trapped inside the holds of the tanker.

Gulf attacks bring insecurity

KUWAIT (R) — A chain of bomb attacks in Kuwait against targets that included the American and French embassies and Kuwait airport has brought new uncertainty to the Gulf.

The region's leaders, already worried about security following the revolution in Iran and the Iran-Iraq war, consulted each other urgently by telephone after six bombs exploded within 90 minutes killing at least four people and injuring more than 60 Monday.

U.S. diplomats said the casualty toll could have been higher had the truck driver not veered left after crashing through the gate. He exploded his vehicle against the administration building and some garages.

He may have mistaken the three-storey administration building for the main block containing the chancery, consular section and information office to the right of the gate, they said.

A Kuwaiti government spokesman said an Egyptian worker was killed in a blast below the control tower at the international airport.

The biggest blast was at the U.S. embassy on the Gulf sea front.

There were no Americans

among the dead. Kuwaiti officials and diplomats said one of those killed was a Syrian employee of the embassy. Another was a Palestinian security guard.

The driver of the truck was said to have survived but no details of his identity or nationality were revealed by officials.

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The statement issued by the Saudi Arabian government and

broadcast by Saudi television which can be seen throughout the Gulf was unusually strong.

"These plots, aimed at shaking security and controlling our riches, will only be foiled through more cooperation and collaboration among Muslims and Arabs," it said.

Saudi Arabia has been pressing its Arab Gulf neighbours for a mutual security pact but they have failed to reach agreement.

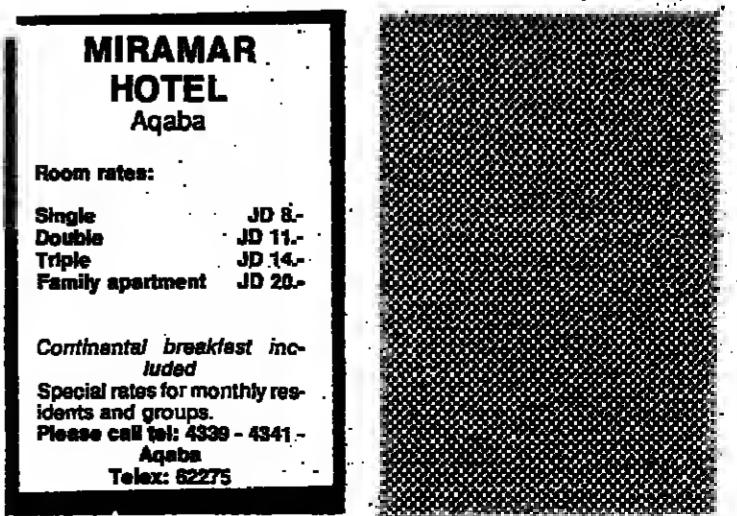
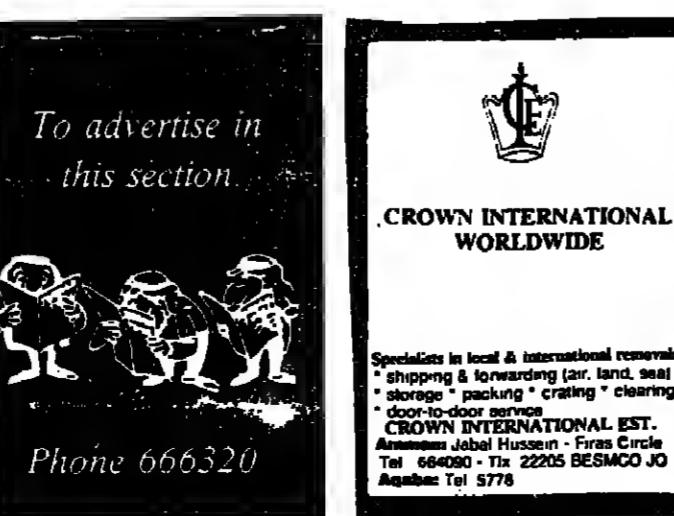
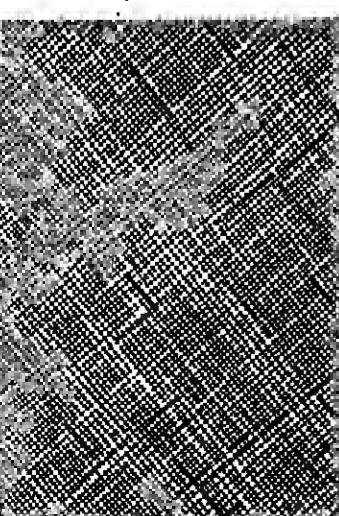
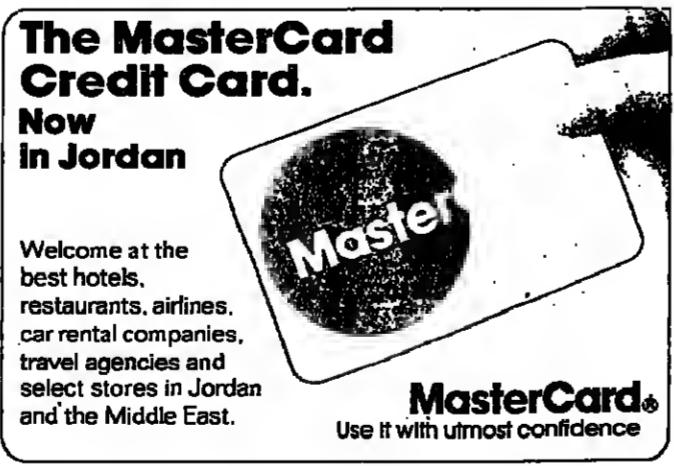
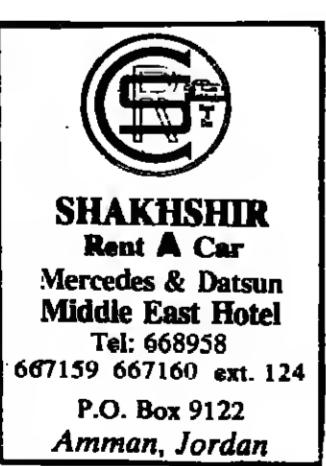
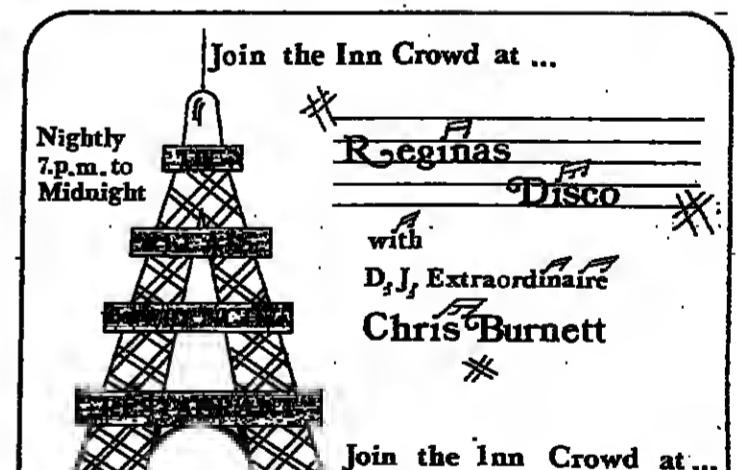
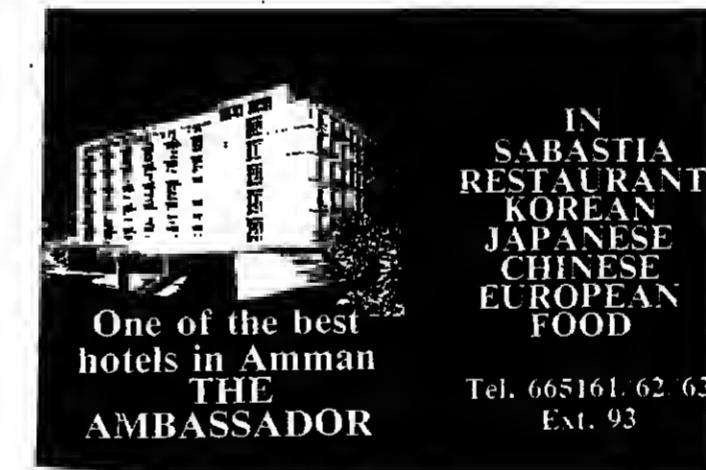
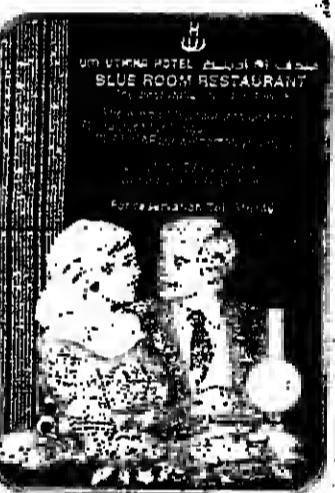
Kuwait was reported to have blocked proposals under which each country's forces would be allowed to enter neighbouring countries in pursuit of criminals.

Kuwait has a cosmopolitan Arab population. Native Kuwaitis make up only 42 per cent of the population.

Palestinians make up nearly a quarter of the inhabitants.

Although a shadowy group called Islamic Jihad (holy war) claimed responsibility in Beirut there was no firm indication as to who was behind the attacks.

JORDAN MARKETPLACE



Airline approves budget

AMMAN (J.T.) — The board of directors of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, has approved Alia's corporate budget for 1984.

Total turnover will be in the order of JD 148.5 million, an increase of 15.3 per cent over 1983, according to Alia's weekly newsletter Alia News.

Loan servicing will amount to around JD 29 million, representing interest and principal

due for 1984.

Salaries and staff benefits will reach JD 25.4 million, or about 17.1 per cent of the total expenses. Alia News said.

Meanwhile, Alia's board met Sunday Dec. 4 to deliberate on the type of new aircraft to be acquired over the next three years.

An announcement on this subject will be made by Alia president Mr. Ghandour Thursday.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Aqaba-Baghdad cargo fees fixed

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport Ali Suheimat has fixed the fees for the transportation of cargo from the port of Aqaba to the Iraqi capital Baghdad at JD 11 per tonne as of the beginning of the current month. Iraqi authorities have agreed to the new arrangement.

Zaben opens modern telephone exchange

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Communications and chairman of the board of directors of the Telecommunication Corporation (TCC), Dr. Mohammad Al Zaben, Tuesday inaugurated the modern central electronic telephone exchange in Amman. The new exchange, which has a capacity of 110,000 telephone numbers, cost JD 1.9 million and started operations November 25 thus replacing the old Amman mechanical exchange.

New British consul takes up post

AMMAN (J.T.) — The new British Consul Miss Janet James has taken up her post at the British Embassy here. She arrived here from London where she served at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Before that, Miss James served at the British Embassy in Khartoum and a short stay at the British Embassy in Cairo.

ACC Madaba branch grants 37 loans

AMMAN (Petra) — The Agricultural Credit Corporation's (ACC) branch in Madaba granted 37 loans totalling JD 254,830 during the current year to farmers in various areas of Madaba district, according to an ACC spokesman. The loans will be used to develop livestock, buy agricultural machinery and develop irrigation by the installation of plastic houses.

Ministry to distribute saplings

AMMAN (Petra) — The forestry director at the Agriculture Ministry announced Tuesday that 3,500,000 forest saplings will be distributed free of charge to citizens during the Arbour Day celebration on January 15.

Election fever grips Irbid

(IBRD) — Campaigning for municipal elections in Irbid, northern Jordan, has reached an unprecedented level in the city's history and local inhabitants will no doubt brace themselves for further heated signs of the closely contested elections scheduled for Wednesday Dec. 14.

The city is decked with posters and slogans draped across walls urging voters to support nominees of four blocs grouping 37 candidates contesting nine seats.

According to the municipal voting list 31,000 people are eligible to cast ballot papers, of whom 45 per cent are women, who will be enfranchised for the first time. In the previous election only 16,000 people were eligible to vote.

Every day, election rallies are held in different parts of this city and more often than not women are seen taking part in the speeches or just attending.

A special committee supervising the elections has assigned 31 polling centres to facilitate voting.

Seventeen of the centres will be for men and 14 for women.

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Jordan Times

By Daniel Vernet

MOSCOW — The arrival in the Soviet capital, within the space of a few days, of Tariq Aziz and Abdul Halim Khaddam, respectively foreign ministers of Iraq and Syria, and Farouk Oddoumi, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) spokesman on foreign affairs, testifies to the fact that the USSR is right back on the Middle East scene.

It had, of course, never really faded out of the scene altogether, but in the summer of 1982 it looked on helplessly as Israel invaded Lebanon, the Palestinian fighters quit Beirut, and a multinational force was deployed in which the fundamental role is played by the United States.

The Soviet Union's Middle East policy is locked into a familiar dilemma. It has always been to "wipe out" Camp David, not to leave the initiative to the United States and impose a broad negotiation on the lines of the Geneva conference; in short, to make sure it has some leverage over destinies in the region. Now, wiser, thanks to past humiliations, the USSR is garnering scoring points for use in the aftermath of an unsuccessful *pax Americana*, while simultaneously working to bring about this breakdown it considers inevitable. Anything that could hold up a settlement in which it has no part seems commendable to it. Its initiatives are limited only by a

concern to avoid a general crisis, for it does not want a direct showdown with the United States just to please the Arabs.

The trouble is that, since it was thrown out of Egypt shortly before the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, the only card it has in the region is Syria. Now the Soviets do not mould Syrian policy; they are making use of it for their own ends.

Unfortunately for them, the proposition could be turned on its head. President Hafez Al Assad of Syria is not moulding Soviet policy, but making use of it for his own ends. This is where lies the ambiguity and danger in the alliance between Moscow and Damascus.

The USSR has boosted its military presence in Syria considerably at the risk of a dual danger. It had created an explosive situation, for the more heavily Syria is armed, the greater are the risks of things getting out of hand and the Soviet Union finding itself undertaking military initiatives it disapproves of. The Soviets do not like lightning strikes, preferring long-prepared operations prepared. They are not above fanning the flames and would love to pull strings provided they do not get hurt.

There was nothing in the terrorist strikes against the French and American contingents in the multinational force which displeased them: the Soviet press

reaction was quite clear — serve them (especially the Americans) right, for they had no business in Lebanon. But the attacks could just as well serve as an opportunity for Washington to pull out its forces as to intervene directly against Syria.

The second danger is political. Vladimir Polikov, the new head of the Middle East department in the Soviet Foreign Ministry, is well qualified to know that: he was ambassador in Cairo when Sadat evicted the Soviet advisers. The Kremlin has always lived in fear of Syria's pan. At the very least, it suspects Assad of using his Soviet backing to promote himself as the United States' inevitable interlocutor. So Moscow is keeping a close eye on the gap separating Syria's demands and American proposals, and notes with relief that it is proving much harder to get Israel to give up the Golan Heights than Sinai.

Fearful though they are of being overwhelmed both by military actions and diplomatic initiatives, the Soviets have no option but to stick with Damascus. The alliance with Syria is still a priority in their Middle East policy, even if it means having to stomach a few affronts. Whether the USSR urged moderation on Syria or called on all the Palestinians to put an end to their fighting in Tripoli, the fact remains it has neither condemned in so many words, the attacks against

Yasser Arafat's followers nor tried very hard to restore peace.

Moscow is embarrassed by the PLO's internal quarrels. In its view they are playing into Washington's and Israel's hands and weakening the Palestinian movement. It feels a PLO under Syrian control, hence deprived of direct links with the USSR, would lead to a loss of Soviet influence in the region. However, the Kremlin had taken good care not to commit itself to Arafat, and the PLO leader's planned visit to Moscow has been put off several times. Qadoudi's recent visit to Moscow brought Soviet support for the PLO, but not for its leader whose authority is contested. The USSR has no confidence in a man it suspects of constantly trying to make a deal with the United States and who at the start of the year was ready to accept the Reagan plan, which is an expression of its expulsion from the Middle East.

These reservations do not mean that the Soviets would like to see Arafat eliminated, but if a "good lesson" were administered to the PLO leader, it would not go against their interests.

As for the broader issue of Lebanon, the Kremlin claims to be supporting that country's "independence, integrity and sovereignty". It does not wish for a return to the situation that prevailed before the Israeli intervention any more than a partition leaving a tiny "Christian" enclave which is bound to become a "bridgehead for imperialism" in the heart of the Arab World.

In the other conflict that is tearing the Middle East apart, the USSR has worked out a middle way which permits itself to bring its influence to bear on both Iraq and Iran, its overriding concern being to hold the ring between the two belligerents and stave off an Iranian military victory which would disrupt the entire region. It supported the United Nations resolution calling for an end to the fighting, even if its leaders seem sceptical as to whether it can be applied. At any rate, the Soviets have moved from their initial position of supporting Iran when hostilities started to a position less favourable to Iraq with which they have — as with Syria — a friendship and cooperation treaty.

All the same, Moscow considers that this sort of treaty does not commit it to support the military adventures of its allies outside their borders, but commits it only to provide them with military assistance to cope with aggression. The Iraqis feel today that the misunderstandings have been dispelled and that its cause is better understood. They are claiming that Moscow has even acknowledged they had no alternative but to take preemptive action against the Iranians. The fact is, the USSR has resumed deliveries — suspended when the fighting broke out — of arms, which had

been contracted for and become, along with France, Iraq's best ally.

It is not clear how these arms are being paid for. The Soviets do not usually make gifts of weapons, even to their best friends, whereas Iraq scarcely seems to be in a position to pay, except with oil. In this connection, when he was in Moscow recently, the Iraqi foreign minister asked the Soviets to intercede with Syria to have the oil pipeline opened, which would enable Iraqi oil to be pumped across Syrian territory to the Mediterranean.

Contacts between the USSR and Iran have not been broken off, however, in spite of Tehran's expulsion of Soviet diplomats and criticism of the Khomeini regime in the Moscow press. Trade and industrial relations are continuing, as well as cooperation over navigation in seas and rivers along their borders. Arms intended for Iran are said to be shipped through the USSR, itself which is keeping its brook arms in the fire. Moscow wants to prevent the conflict from spilling over into the Gulf states with which it is steadily improving relations. But it is apparently not unduly worried by a conflict between two states which, though admittedly "anti-imperialist", are exhausting themselves in a war of attrition and would have to end in a standstill. The Kremlin has taken up a position for the time when mediation will be possible. — Le Monde

A role in doubt

LAST WEEK's U.S. air raids against Syrian positions, in which two American planes were downed, and the "informal" retaliatory action that followed, causing the death of eight American Marines in Beirut, have generated great concern over the future and the nature of the role of the four-nation peace-keeping force (MNF) in Lebanon.

When the 3,500 troops were dispatched to Lebanon in August 1982, their defined mission was to keep the peace.

Sixteen months later, however, the four-nation force has not only failed in restoring peace to ravaged Lebanon, but has increasingly found itself trapped in the eight-year internal conflict. One reason for the failure is, of course, the escalation of American military involvement in the area. First the American warships off the Lebanese coast participated in the factional clashes and shelled the strategic Lebanese town of Souk Al Gharb, which might have prompted the suicidal attacks against U.S. and French headquarters in October, killing nearly 300 servicemen.

The four participants then pledged that their forces will carry only their peace-keeping mission as originally planned. But the recently perceived Israeli-American agreements for "strategic alliance" to counter "the Soviet threat" have added a dangerous dimension to the role of the peace-keeping force in Lebanon and have put it in a new context altogether.

What Brian Urquhart, the senior U.N. peacekeeping official, said the other day about the MNF losing its capacity to help bring peace to Lebanon therefore becomes not only important but also alarming, in view of the man's long experience and acknowledged integrity, and neutrality.

The Europeans participating in the force with the Americans have already expressed considerable fears about the way their peacekeeping role is being played.

Here, we can only raise similar doubts, and warn against the MNF becoming too politicised for carrying out their duty in Lebanon in a manner compatible with that planned for them.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Withdrawal equals peace

IN HIS recent interview with an American television network, King Hussein said that the Middle East region is heading towards another catastrophe. The only way of averting that is for Washington to honour its commitments to support what is right and just. King Hussein called on the U.S. to stop all forms of Zionist terrorism against the Arabs in the region and not to impose peace with injustice. He said that the Americans should differentiate between peace through coercion and force and peace based on justice and co-existence. What is in the offing now is peace by force — one that implies capitulation by the Arabs to Israel's expansionist designs and will.

This kind of peace is tantamount to abandoning our rights in our land and risking our own future. King Hussein stressed that if the Zionists pursued their policies of establishing settlements on Arab land and refused to recognise the Palestinian people's rights, then any talk about peace will become meaningless. He stressed that the Arabs want a total withdrawal in exchange for peace and in the absence of this the region will never enjoy security and stability.

Al Dustour: Grotesque designs

THE SERIES of explosions that took place in Kuwait Monday were designed to shake that country's security and stability and also aimed at striking at the Gulf's political and social life. These explosions require condemnation by all Arabs not only because of their grotesque designs but also because they caused the loss of innocent life. These crimes perpetrated by the enemies of the Arab Nation might have been intended to force Kuwait to seek protection from foreign powers and thus expose the Gulf region to international polarisation.

We are sure that these explosions will not shake the Kuwaiti government's confidence in its people nor will they force it to change its national policies. On the other hand, we must not forget that U.S. policies in the region and its recent strategic alliance agreement with Israel have created an opportune atmosphere for such criminal activity. Unless the U.S. rectified its course of actions and adopted a fair policy by supporting the Arab people's rights, violence is bound to escalate not only at the level of individuals but also at the level of armies and states.

Sawt Al Shaab: More tragedy in store

IT IS rather difficult for us to point our fingers to the actual perpetrators of the crime which took place in Kuwait Monday. But it is not difficult to determine the parties that helped to escalate tension and thus created the suitable atmosphere for such criminal activity. We, in fact, blame the U.S. and Israel and consider them totally responsible for the present grave situation. They are both responsible as far as what is to come and for the inevitable future tragedies and crimes.

The explosions in Kuwait Monday mark a real expansion of the circle of fire that is bound to engulf the whole region unless serious efforts are made to settle the region's explosive issues. Jordan has warned of this situation, and has been calling on all Arabs to beware of the tension and the mini-wars that have been going on in Lebanon as well as the Gulf war which has sapped the Arab Nation's resources. It is the duty of all Arabs to assume the initiative now and find solutions to the Gulf war, the Lebanese question and the Israeli occupation of Arab lands.

'The Day After' has recently stunned British audience too

Washington knows better than ABC, says U.S. official

By Richard Burt

With the broadcast of "The Day After," ABC's effort to depict the destructiveness of nuclear war, we are in the midst of a swirling debate about the implications of nuclear weapons not only for our nation's security, but also for the survival of human society as a whole. Indeed, the nuclear question has become perhaps the no. 1 policy issue of our time. Unfortunately, it is unlikely that the film, and the discussion it has spawned, will be helpful in enabling the public to come to grips with this critical question.

This is because "The Day After," while providing a graphic reminder of just how horrifying nuclear warfare would be, promoted two fundamental myths that can only cloud the public debate over nuclear weapons.

The first myth is that the strategy of mutual deterrence, in the final analysis is unsafe and unworkable; that in a serious crisis, deterrence is likely to fail and an unspeakable catastrophe will befall all American society.

The second myth is that the people who conceived the strategy of deterrence and are responsible for its implementation are somehow insensitive to the real dangers of nuclear war; that political leaders and military theorists are cut off from reality and only understand their own Strangelovian concepts.

If we are to have an informed debate on the nuclear problem, it is important to understand the realities that these myths obscure.

First of all, we are not rushing headlong toward a nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union, for it is a nuclear catastrophe in any way inevitable. The U.S.-Soviet relationship is, without a doubt, more tense now than it was a decade ago, and no one in this administration takes comfort in this fact. But this does not automatically translate into a greater risk of war. While tensions have ebbed and flowed over the last 30 years in our relations with Moscow, there has not been a war between the United States and the Soviet Union. Even in tense moments, both sides have deliberately avoided taking steps that could lead to such a war.

The reason for this is clear: Despite the shift in the nuclear balance from a situation of clear U.S. superiority to one of increasing Soviet advantages, both

sides have maintained an unmistakable capacity to retaliate against a nuclear attack. This mutual deterrence has worked for almost three decades. Moreover, strategists and government policy makers have continuously refined and redefined the policy of deterrence to insure that it has been responsive to changes in the strategic environment.

Considerable progress has been made in perfecting the strategy of deterrence over the years. In the late 1950's there was a growing recognition that the mere possession of nuclear forces was not enough. But that those forces needed to be invulnerable to attack. This led, for example, to the development of submarine-launched ballistic missiles capable of surviving a first strike. In the late 1960's and early 1970's, it was recognised that the deployment of a large-scale, anti-ballistic missile force based on existing technologies would not only incur enormous costs, but also raise doubts about the credibility of mutual deterrence. Thus we and the Soviets agreed to ban nationwide ABM defences, and to restrict each side to one ABM site.

More recently, President Reagan has advanced a series of initiatives designed to keep deterrence effective in the 1980's and beyond.

On the military side, while the size of the American strategic stockpile is smaller than at any time in the last 20 years, it is being modernised so that Moscow will not come to believe that it could employ nuclear weapons against the United States and its allies without running a huge risk. The president also has instructed the Department of Defense and other agencies to determine whether new technologies are available to reduce the future vulnerability of the United States and its allies to nuclear attack. In the area of arms control, the president's proposals in the two Geneva negotiations focus on the need to reduce, and not just limit, the number of nuclear weapons in the U.S. and Soviet arsenals.

It is also important to recognise, however, that reductions are not an end in themselves. Indeed, reductions can weaken deterrence if they lead to smaller but more vulnerable zeroes on one or both sides. Thus, in the president's START proposals, the United States has focused on the need to reduce forces in a way that inc-

reases the stability of deterrence — in particular, by reducing large, fixed-based ICBMs that are, at once, vulnerable to attack and capable of carrying out a disarming first strike.

In addition to strengthening deterrence through stabilising reductions, the administration also recognised the need to improve U.S.-Soviet communications in periods of crisis in order to minimise the danger of misunderstanding or miscalculation — so-called "confidence-building measures."

For instance, the administration has proposed that we and the Soviets work together with other nations to establish procedures for handling the possible seizure of nuclear weapons by terrorists and taking into consideration ideas of Sen. Sam Nunn, Sen. John Warner, and the late Sen. Henry Jackson. The administration has also proposed a number of ways to improve direct U.S.-Soviet channels of communication: improvements to the "hot line" and the establishment of a direct communication link between the U.S. and Soviet militaries. If it is a myth that nuclear war is inevitable, that nuclear question cannot be affec-

ted by diplomacy, it is an even more pernicious myth that nuclear weapons policy is the preserve of a "nuclear priesthood" that is totally insensitive to the concerns of the public at large. In actual fact, the strategy of deterrence and the specific policies adopted for carrying it out reflect the thinking of a wide array of individuals from both ends of the political spectrum and from many different disciplines.

For example, one of the first Americans to write about the concept of mutual deterrence, Bernard Brodie, was a historian. The man who first recognised the need to address the vulnerability of nuclear forces, Albert Wohlstetter, was originally a mathematical logician. One of the seminal thinkers on arms control, Thomas Schelling, came to the field with a background in economics. These thinkers rose to prominence not through some special process of self-selection among a narrow elite, but because they captured the attention through the quality of their ideas.

Just as the theory of deterrence

has been influenced by a road spectre of thinkers, so too have American policies for managing the nuclear balance been shaped by a wide range of political leaders from both parties. Since the late 1950's, when the public was debating the so-called "missile gap," nuclear questions have been a central topic of debate in presidential campaigns. More recently, there has been an explosion of awareness and expertise on nuclear issues on Capitol Hill, with members of Congress playing an increasing role in the formulation of defence and arms control policy.

The two best recent examples were the joint efforts of the administration and congressional leaders to develop a consensus on strategic forces modernisation, culminating in the recommendations of the Scowcroft Commission and the efforts to refine the "build-down" concept which has recently incorporated into U.S. START proposals at the Geneva negotiations.

In sum, the nuclear question has been with us for some time. It has gained the attention of some of the best minds of our time, and will continue to do so. This is as it should be, for deterrence cannot be strengthened — much less strengthened — through a policy of benign neglect.

Thus, the notion that there is some ill-defined urgency for the public to rise up and shake the "Washington establishment" out of a supposed slumber on matters of nuclear policy is false and perhaps even irresponsible. The Reagan administration has welcomed the public debate that has occurred in recent years on the nuclear question. In the American political system, there are many avenues through which creative ideas can be, and have been, brought to bear on the problem of strengthening deterrence and avoiding war.

At the same time, those Americans who are concerned about how to get their views on nuclear questions heard in Washington should also think about to influence the Soviet Union.

This article by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs was published in the Los Angeles Times after transmission of "The Day After" by the ABC TV network.

Foreign debt, C. American crisis face new Venezuelan president

By Keith Grant

CARACAS — Venezuela is likely to remain a moderating force in regional affairs under its new president, Jaime Lusinchi, political analysts said Monday.

Mr. Lusinchi has said he opposes any military solution to the conflict in Central America, saying it could lead to another "Vietnam" in the region. He favours a negotiated settlement in line with existing Venezuelan policy.

Mr. Lusinchi's party has been more sympathetic to Nicaragua's Sandinista government than the outgoing Venezuelan administration. But he has hinted has differences with Managua's leftist rulers.

In statements to the foreign press last week, he said the Managua government was in debt to the Nicaraguan people for failing to hold elections and he had told

this to junta leaders Sergio Ramirez and Tomas Borge.

Mr. Lusinchi says he will continue to support the Contadora initiative and favours widening its scope to bring democracy not only to El Salvador and Nicaragua but also to Guatemala and Honduras. He has said he will put these ideas to American former U.S. State Secretary Henry Kissinger, who is due to visit Caracas later this month as the head of President Reagan's special commission on Central America.

Mr. Lusinchi also believes inter-American relations should be revised in the wake of last year's Anglo-Argentine Falklands war and that Venezuela will oppose any attempt by the United States or the Soviet Union to intervene in the region.

At home, Mr. Lusinchi has promised to rebuild the economy after several years of stagnation. He told the foreign press he was confident of settling the debt question as soon as possible.

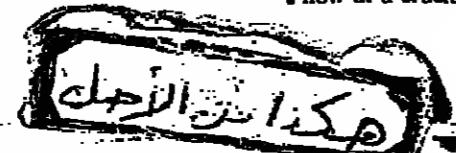
Whatever the outcome of these talks, Venezuela is unlikely to see

any quick return to rapid growth and the major industrial projects that featured the 1970s, analysts said.

Because of limited fiscal resources, most of the industrial projects that had been shelved with the decline in oil income, including the Orinoco Oil Belt, a steel plant in Zulia and an extensive railway network, will stay on the drawing boards.

Mr. Lusinchi has said Venezuela must adjust to living within their means, but at the same time he envisaged no dramatic slump in oil revenues, probably a steady improvement.

"Venezuela should not accept the present crisis as inevitable — it is up to us to resolve it ourselves," he said.



Infant mortality has dropped from 100 to 64 per thousand, health minister says.

Malhas: Health services improved over the last decade

By Aifah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Increased health awareness and the introduction of proper water purification has resulted in a progressive improvement in the health services over the last ten years, according to Health Minister Zubair Malhas.

As an indication of this, Mr. Malhas said in an interview with the Jordan Times, infant mortality has dropped from 100 to 64 per thousand. "Diarrhea related diseases are also on the decrease," he said, "although they are still quite common."

There are four basic media through which health care is dispensed namely the Ministry of Health, the Royal Medical Services, the Jordan University Hospital and the private sector. "But the bulk of preventive medicine and related problems is almost completely the responsibility of the ministry," he said. Dr. Malhas added that, from a treatment point of view, the ministry takes care of about 55 per cent of the population.

Skin diseases

Asked about skin diseases in Jordan, Dr. Malhas said that suddenly over the past year the leishmania skin infection has appeared in some parts of the country. He added that in the past there were cases in Jordan of the so called Aleppo or Baghdad sore.

Explaining the cause of this skin disease, Dr. Malhas said that it is a parasite transmitted by a sand fly which bites people on the exposed part of the skin like the face, arms and legs. "It is a self-limited disease and it leaves scars on the infected people," he said.

Dr. Malhas said that leishmania is contagious in the sense that the individual inflicted, through scratching, may increase the number of lesions. "It is also contagious in the sense that when the sand fly is around it usually bites more than one person." However he stressed that leishmania is not passed from one individual to another.

Dr. Malhas went on to say that cases of this skin disease used to be found a long time ago in Jericho and in the Swaimeh area on the areas hit recently by this disease. Dr. Malhas said that the ministry found 100 cases in Qatiranch, a large number of cases in the east Amman area and a small number of cases to the east of Zarqa in Wadi Dufail.

Preventive medicine

Regarding the preventive measures taken to prevent the spread of certain diseases locally and world wide, Dr. Malhas said that the most convincing evidence of the fact that prevention can really work is that "we have completely conquered the smallpox disease from the whole world as declared by WHO in 1980."

The main preventive measures taken in Jordan against infectious and contagious diseases and which are stipulated by law are the triple vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and poliomyelitis infantile paralysis, he said.

On the recently introduced vaccinations, Dr. Malhas said that surprisingly enough rabid dogs have been found within the city limits recently. "Two weeks ago two rabid dogs bite 38 people in and near Jabal Al Hussein," he said.

Rabies

There is an agricultural law which stipulates that all dogs must be registered, vaccinated and must

are those who work in blood banks, in kidney dialysis units as well as physicians and nurses.

Dr. Malhas pointed out that although Jordan has no helminths, the ministry has a section working on this disease to combat the snails that carry it. Helminths are found in large numbers in the King Talal Dam as well as in various ponds and lakes in the Jordan Valley, he said. "We are embarked upon a continuous process of combating these snails while at the same time screening many of the Egyptian workers, 24 per cent of whom we unfortunately have found carry the disease."

Explaining how this disease can be infectious, Dr. Malhas said that if the carrier of helminths goes near for instance a reservoir, the parasite can reach the snail which will in turn affect the people locally. "Fortunately this has not happened yet and I hope it will not happen at all," he said.

Speaking of the drugs used to combat the snails, he said that they are very expensive but the ministry imported stocks of these drugs three years ago.

Dr. Malhas added that the ministry has also had to import some of the latest medicines which treat schistosomiasis by mouth in a single dose. "This," he said "has been given to Egyptian workers free of charge and has met with cooperation from all concerned including the patients."

On future plans regarding preventive measures to be taken by the ministry, Dr. Malhas said that they are thinking of the possibility of using a new vaccine against mumps.

Rabies

Dr. Malhas then referred to a disease that can be prevented but not treated, namely rabies. He said that Jordan suffers from the presence of rabid animals but not of rabies itself. Rabid animals are usually stray dogs, foxes, and wolves, he said.

"This is really a pathetic situation because if there is no immediate treatment by vaccine of whoever has been bitten by a rabid animal, death is inevitable."

Dr. Malhas said that surprisingly enough rabid dogs have been found within the city limits recently. "As it is possible totally to prevent it, I cannot see why a new born baby should die or even suffer from tetanus," he said.

He added that this disease can be prevented simply by a couple of injections administered to a pregnant mother just a few months



Health Minister Zubair Malhas

have a serial number, he said. All says not so covered must be destroyed, he said.

Elaborating on the diagnosis, methods and treatment of rabid animals and people, Dr. Malhas said that in the past the ministry had no means of diagnosing the rabid animals, but since 1981 it has introduced one of the most modern methods in the world, that of immunofluorescence which "gives accurate results and within hours."

"The vaccines used for preventive measures and treatment have likewise been improved being "no more those that are grown on duck or sheep embryos but those grown on human cells," he said.

The treatment of this kind of disease, Dr. Malhas stressed, is very costly and a rabid person should continuously be given vaccines for three months after being bitten. "Unfortunately," he said, "this increases the cost as we have to keep chasing the patients for them, not enough cooperation from them."

Another problem that faces the ministry and is considered as one of the new challenges is natal tetanus. "As it is possible totally to prevent it, I cannot see why a new born baby should die or even suffer from tetanus," he said.

Referring to the maternal child health centres run by the ministry, Dr. Malhas said that there is included a lecture demonstration room where the midwife gives

before the time of delivery if she has received no vaccination against tetanus before. "This is not only the responsibility of the parents but also that of the community and health officials, for it is not in law obligatory that all pregnant women should be vaccinated against tetanus," he said.

Giving a statistical list of the ministry's hospitals, health clinics and centres established all over the Kingdom, Dr. Malhas said that there are 270 village clinics, 100 health centres, 80 maternal child health centres, 44 demenitries and 18 chest diseases centres incorporated in the health centres, in addition to the 14 hospitals established.

"We opened the 15th hospital recently in North Shuneh which has 16 beds," he said.

Health education

Referring to health education, Dr. Malhas said that this is the crux of the whole matter in the field of health. He said that all people should receive elementary health education especially "in how to clean their bodies, which would include daily baths and thorough washing of their clothes."

He stressed that health education is an ongoing process but "there is the need to expand it particularly where diseases can be prevented," he said.

To that effect, the ministry three years ago established a department for health education with specialised staff. But "the department is not going to solve the problem, for health education should also be promoted by the mass media and should be incorporated in school education," he said.

In respect to laboratories, Dr. Malhas said that they are heavily equipped with very modern equipment to monitor and study poisons and gas chromatography. He went on to say that atomic absorption equipment and ultra centrifuges had also been introduced.

Regarding new treatment, Dr. Malhas said that the ministry has recently introduced a new treatment for cancer. "We are the

only people that treat this using X-rays," he said.

The ministry also introduced

the linear accelerator at a cost of

\$1 million at the Bashir Hospital.

"We try to keep up as much as

possible with new developments

but ordering them is very costly as

also is their maintenance."

Asked where and who maintains the equipment, Dr. Malhas

said that they are maintained by

local staff at the Royal Scientific

Society which has a special centre

for the maintenance of electric

and electronic equipment. This

costs \$5 million and it was built

and given by the Japanese to the

government of Jordan.

Primary health

Dr. Malhas added that specialists in public health are also rare. He explained that public health does not only include the treatment of individuals but also primary health care which leads to a generally better standard of health.

"The definition of health according to WHO," he emphasised, "is not the absence of disease, but the state of physical, mental and social well-being."

"It thus involves all kinds of facets of health such as good housing, sanitation, safe disposal of waste, culling before marriage, vaccination of children, prevention of diseases, as well as mental health and psychological care."

Dr. Malhas said that this is a new concept put into one philosophy of primary health care. In Europe for instance, he said, between \$13 and 15 thousand per annum are required while the cost in Britain is nearer \$20 to \$30 thousand per year.

"In addition to the costly training, we face the problem of finding places for our trainees, for course places in the U.S. and Britain have become almost completely full up because of the tough competition from local people in these countries and others from outside," he said.

Dr. Malhas stressed that training facilities in the inter-Arab level should be developed. "This has already started in the field of medical training through the Arab specialty board which grades hospitals for training specialisation. Doctors at such institutions will then sit an examination and, if they pass, will be considered to be specialists."

He said that this is an apolitical decision that was taken by the Arab Health Council of Ministers.

On the local level, Dr. Malhas said that Jordan has forged ahead because of an urgent need in the country. Thus the Jordan Medical Board was established which holds examinations in all specialties and awards the certificate if passed.

In respect to Jordan's urgent needs for certain specialists, Dr. Malhas said that there are an excess of specialists in some fields and shortage in others.

He added that the shortage lies in the more advanced sectors such as radiology, pathology, forensic medicine and neonatology while anaesthetists are also in short supply, he explained.

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More risks to mother and child if babies are born too close, WHO says

NEW YORK — The risk to the life and health of both mothers and children is steeply increased when babies are born too close together, says UNICEF's State of the World's Children report for 1983.

Evidence from the World Fertility Survey — the largest survey into human behaviour ever undertaken — now suggests that the risks to life and health begin to edge upwards with the birth of the third child and climb quite steeply for fourth and fifth children.

The age of the mother is also a factor. In both rich and poor countries, children born to women

less than 20 years old are roughly twice as likely to die in infancy as a child born to a woman in her mid 20s — though the likeliest reason for this is that very young mothers also tend to be both poor and less educated.

The increased risks to life and health involved in having babies "too close, too many, or too young" holds true for all income groups, although in each case the risk is increased by poverty. Even in the United States it has been estimated that infant deaths could be reduced by almost one third if parents were to have no more than

three well spaced children.

These relationships between child bearing and health are only now being scientifically demonstrated. Yet this is one area, says UNICEF, where the people may well be ahead of the scientists. Out of 21,000 women interviewed by one international survey, 9 out of 10 believed that the health of mothers and children is better if there are fewer births and longer intervals between. If decisions on family size were made by women rather than by men, it seems, then birth rates would probably fall dramatically.

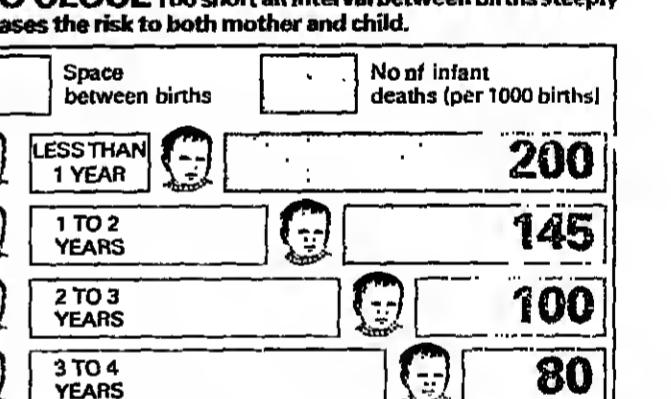
According to the World Fertility Survey, for example, the proportion of women with 3 children who do not want to become pregnant again is over 70 per cent in Sri Lanka, over 65 per cent in Bangladesh, over 60 per cent in Thailand and Peru, and over 50 per cent in Costa Rica and Mexico.

Unfortunately, about half of the women who are now at risk of an unwanted pregnancy are not using any reliable method of family planning. One consequence is the alarming number of illegal abortions. According to some esti-

mates, there are now 2 abortions in the world for every 5 births and the number of women who die from illegal abortion may now be more than 700,000 a year.

More deaths among infants born too close together, or into very large families, is a "tip of the iceberg" indicator of a larger body of infection and illness. "Increase in women's own control over their own fertility," says UNICEF, "is therefore a change which would clearly have a revolutionary impact on the health of mothers and on the survival and healthy growth of their children."

TOO CLOSE Too short an interval between births steeply increases the risk to both mother and child.



From a WHO survey of over 6000 women in South India

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Abu I

SPORTS

24 athletes to represent Jordan in Los Angeles

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian National Olympic Committee (NOC) Second Deputy President Muwaffaq Al Fawwaz Sunday evening chaired a meeting of the committee which decided on the number of participants for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games. Candidates for participation should be highly qualified for the games they are to take part in, and they should be able to obtain results close to the Olympic's qualification standards.

The maximum number of sportsmen for the games has been agreed upon as follows: Athletics: Three men, two women. Swimming: Two men, two women. Gymnastics: Three men. Wrestling: Two men. Weight-lifting: Two men. Shooting: Five men. Archery: One man. Cycling: Two men.

Sports Federations and associations to take part in the games have been asked to contact related world bodies to prepare for the games in compliance with the Olympic Charter.



Top seed Gerulaitis knocked out of New South Wales Open

SYDNEY (R) — American Vitas Gerulaitis will not be sorry to see the back of 1983.

A year which has brought him a series of unexpected defeats continued in the same vein on Tuesday when, as top seed, he was bundled out of the first round of the New South Wales (NSW) Men's Open Tennis Championship.

Britain's John Lloyd, whose year has been as encouraging as Gerulaitis' has been disappointing, beat the top seed 7-5, 6-3 in little over an hour.

At the beginning of the year Lloyd set himself the target of winning a place in the world's top 100 by Christmas. Tuesday's win meant he achieved his aim with a few days to spare.

Gerulaitis, beaten in the first round of the Australian Open in

Melbourne, battled well until Lloyd took the first set by breaking his service in the 12th game.

The British player then romped to a 5-0 lead in the second set with breaks in the second and fourth games, and though Gerulaitis broke back there was to be no reprieve. Lloyd clinched his win with three cracking serves in the ninth game.

Another surprise casualty of the second day of the tournament was John Fitzgerald, a key member of the Australian Davis Cup team which meets Sweden in the Davis Cup final later this month.

Fitzgerald, seeded six, was suddenly beaten 3-6, 7-5, 6-1 by little-known American Robert Seguso, who had to pre-qualify.

Fitzgerald said he would now concentrate on correcting what he

considered to be flaws in his game over the next few days before the start of the Davis Cup final in Melbourne on Boxing Day.

Mark Edmondson, expected to represent the Australians in the doubles tie against the Swedes, was also beaten on Tuesday. The ninth seed lost 7-6, 6-4 in a first round match to American Mark Dickson.

But afterwards he said: "I think you will find we will perform much better in the (Davis Cup) final than the latest form from the Australian Open and here suggests."

It was a bad day for the seeded players. Americans Eric Korita and Tom Gullikson also falling by the wayside. Korita, seeded 12, was beaten 4-6, 6-3, 6-1 by compatriot Marty Davis and Gullikson, seeded 16, went out 7-6, 3-6, 6-1 to Australian Brod Dyke.

Hughes saves 3rd test for Australia

ADELAIDE (R) — Australia saved the third cricket test against Pakistan after a century by captain Kim Hughes here on Tuesday, but the touring team's much-improved performance gave their morale and confidence a timely lift.

Hughes scored 106 as Australia, 159 behind on first innings, extended the overnight 94 for two to 311 for seven to ensure a draw on the fifth and final day.

Australia preserved their 1-0 lead in the five-match series despite a shaky spell during the second session when they slipped to 224 for five, and an injury which forced Rodney Marsh to retire hurt after hitting 33.

Pakistan, who were troubled by an innings in the first test and had the worst of the rain-hit draw second, produced their best tour form here and can hope to provide an even stronger challenge in the last two matches.

The touring team are certain to be boosted by the return after injury of their inspirational captain and all-rounder Imran Khan, who has been given medical clearance to play as a batsman but cannot yet bowl.

Marsh had to be helped from the field, and X-rays later revealed a fracture of his left cheekbone. It is not known at the stage if the injury will keep him out of the fourth test starting in Melbourne on December 26.

Experienced pacemen Sarfraz

Nawaz, recently called up to the team, and Imran's attack, soon made an impact in the test, however, when he helped to bring out the best in new ball partner Aslam Hafeez.

Azeem had a match total of seven wickets, and produced a bouncer which led to Marsh's injury. Australia's wicketkeeper was struck and knocked to the ground when he attempted to hook the rising delivery.

Marsh had to be helped from the field, and X-rays later revealed a fracture of his left cheekbone. It is not known at the stage if the injury will keep him out of the fourth test starting in Melbourne on December 26.

Windies set to clinch series

CALCUTTA (R) — With West Indies set for a series-clinching victory in the fifth cricket test against India resuming here on Wednesday, both sides are likely to look to the future for the final match starting in Madras on December 24.

India, 136 behind on first innings, will continue at 36 for five after Tuesday's rest day when they must have reflected bitterly on a fine position squandered.

West Indies were reeling on XIX for five in reply to India's 241 but recovered under the influence of captain Clive Lloyd's 161 not out to reach 377 and with two days left are poised for their third win in the six-match series.

The touring team, despite their superiority in the rubber, need to

give their young batsmen a chance to blossom so they are ready to fill the big gap which will be created when Lloyd, 39, ends his long and distinguished international career.

Opener Desmond Haynes, who has made only one score in excess of 50 in eight innings and been dismissed for less than 20 six times in the series, might have to surrender his place to Antigua's Richard Richardson.

Richardson played in the fourth test at Bombay, scoring nought and 26, but could not stay in the team for the fifth as the selectors wanted to pick an extra bowler in off spinner Roger Harper.

But the composition of the West Indies side for the final test might be determined by the selection of

Renault unveils '84

Formula One turbocharged car

PARIS (R) — Renault on Tuesday unveiled a new and more powerful streamlined turbocharged car for next year's Formula One motor racing campaign.

Renault Grand Prix manager Gerard Larousse introduced the new car and announced a major reshuffle in their Formula One department after saying they ended the 1983 season on a terrible sense of frustration.

Larousse said his team finished the season in dispirited mood after a mechanical failure in the final race in South Africa forced Renault's Alain Prost to concede the World Drivers' Championship to Brazilian Nelson Piquet.

The new car, named RE-50, features a classical V-6 engine whose output has been increased to 660-750 horsepower with space savings of about 40 per cent compared with the previous model.

Most of the extra power comes from two West German-made KKK turbochargers but Larousse left open the possibility of switching to U.S.-made chargers during the season. The Renault cars blew several undersized KKK turbochargers last season.

The new EF4 engine will also feature faster response through shortened fuel circuits and improved electronic ignition, as well as better combustion with less heating points.

This extensive streamlining has resulted in the loss of 15 kg (about 30 pounds) for the whole car.

The body itself should show improved road handling through a lowered gravity centre and the use of ground effect.

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Spread your wings

Dollar advance slows

LONDON (R) — The U.S. dollar's advance on foreign exchange markets continued Tuesday at a slower rate than during the heavy gains of recent days.

But dealers, pointing to international tensions and belief that U.S. interest rates could go even higher, forecast that the dollar was destined to climb even higher in the short term.

Even before European markets opened Tuesday morning the U.S. currency hit new records against sterling, which slid to \$1.4240 from Monday's close of \$1.4310, and the French franc, whose new low was 8.4170 to the dollar after 8.3915 Monday.

But during morning business the dollar fell back from peak levels to within narrow limits against all major currencies. Sterling recovered to around \$1.4260 and the French franc to 8.4040 to the dollar.

Against the West German mark, the dollar briefly touched

2.7615 marks, then retreated to 2.7534 marks at the fix, still near a 10-year high, after the Bundesbank intervened, selling \$55.65 million in Frankfurt.

The dollar also followed the same pattern against the Swiss franc, beginning at 2.2173 francs and settling around 2.2075.

Dealers said the markets were still reacting to Monday's bomb attacks against U.S. and French targets in Kuwait.

Although these were less serious than recent incidents in Beirut, they raised fears of widening of Middle East turmoil.

Traders are also looking to next week's meeting of the U.S. federal open market committee. In view of an expected large rise in U.S. money supply figures on Friday, the committee may tighten up policy, which could push interest rates yet higher.

Dealers said sterling's weakness was also due to its dependence upon the price of North Sea oil.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed mostly easier for want of interest Tuesday and at 1500 hours the F.T. index was down 2.6 at 751.

Dealers said the oil sector turned active after news that U.S. oil industry sources said they expected a cut of up to \$1 in the British North Sea crude oil price. Leading oil shares closed little changed on balance having traded lower.

Industrials showed falls ranging to about 4p but ICI was unchanged at 650. Government bonds fluctuated with sterling and closed about 1/4 point easier.

Gold shares drifted lower and North Americans were mixed. BP ended unchanged at 392p after a high/low of 396 and 384 while Shell was at 562 after 560/556. I.C. Gas was 7p off at 231 after interim results and Burmah showed a net gain of 4p at 166 on renewed speculative demand.

Barclays at 482, Lloyds at 552 and Midland at 432 were all 12p lower on profit taking after the recent rise. Insurances were active on fresh speculative demand. Eagle Star was 19p up at 716 awaiting a formal offer from Allianz, for which the deadline expires at 0930 GMT Wednesday. Smith and Nephew closed steady at 165 after interim results up to market expectations.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4255/65	U.S. dollars	1.2484/97
One U.S. dollar	2.7523/33	Canadian dollars	2.0885/95
	2.2065/75	West German marks	55.94/98
	1669.50/1670.50	Dutch guilders	8.4110/4110
	235.45/55	Swiss francs	1669.50/1670.50
	8.0780/8010	Belgian francs	235.45/55
	7.7561/90	French francs	8.0780/8010
	9.9900/30	Italian lire	7.7561/90
One ounce of gold	390.00/390.50	Japanese yen	9.9900/30
		Swedish crowns	
		Norwegian crowns	
		Danish crowns	
		U.S. dollars	

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

HARRIS



JUMBLE.

THAT SCRABBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MUHID

ANGLD

ERKLAT

PUCHIC

THE GOAT ATE AN ELECTRIC BULB BECAUSE ALL HE WANTED WAS THIS.

Now strange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: A

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: CEASE ALTAR BELLOW DEFACE
Answer: The crooked architect discovered that prison walls weren't built this way — TO SCALE

NEWS IN BRIEF

GCC industry ministers open meeting

RIYADH (R) — Industry ministers of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council opened a 2-day meeting in Riyadh Tuesday to discuss development plans and joint industrial projects. The council groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

19 states agree to lend \$3.3b to IMF

BASLE (R) — 19 nations agreed Monday to lend the International Monetary Fund (IMF) \$3.3 billion so it can continue tackling the international debt crisis. The main contributors will be the major industrialized nations of Western Europe and Japan. Nothing will come from the United States. Saudi Arabia is due to follow the 19 countries with a standby loan of its own to the IMF, also amounting to \$3.3 billion.

Arab banks urged to broaden operations

BAHRAIN (R) — Arab banks were Monday urged to broaden the scope of their financing operations and take more risks, instead of relying on safe and short-term operations. Mr. Jad Suidan, director-general of the Arab Investment Company, told a banking conference here that banks should move towards longer-term financing as regional economies became more industrialized and less commercially-based. With the days of "easy money" and government-led economic growth over, banks had to provide financial mechanisms to fuel growth of medium-sized businesses, and play a greater role in project financing.

Ford overseas sales improve

DETROIT (R) — Ford Motor's car and truck sales outside the United States and Canada rose 2.4 per cent in the first 9 months of 1983 compared with the same period last year. Ford said it sold 1,527,371 cars and trucks outside North America compared with 1,491,008 in the first nine months of 1982. The figures showed improved volumes in West Germany, Brazil, South Africa and Argentina but lower volumes in Britain, Spain, Australia and Mexico.

Cocoa price rises to 5-year high

LONDON (R) — The price of cocoa jumped to its highest level for over 5 years in London Monday due to uncertainty about the size of the crop in West Africa, which normally accounts for about two-thirds of world supplies. Cocoa for delivery in March reached its November 1978 high of £1,448 per tonne (\$1.20 per pound), £60.4 cents a pound, above Friday's closing in New York. But it fell back to close at £1,413 (\$1.18).

U.S. may fight Europe's wine, cheese

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States is prepared to retaliate against imports of European wine, cheese, beer or other goods if import restrictions are placed on U.S. farm products, Agriculture Secretary John Block said Monday. The United States is concerned about a European Community plan to cut the cost of its farm subsidies by taxing consumption of vegetable oils and restricting imports of non-grain ingredients in animal feed. Both categories are important U.S. exports to Europe.

Egypt leaves oil prices unchanged

CAIRO (R) — Egypt will not change prices for its crude oil in December despite a decision by the Soviet Union to cut West European contract prices for its similar Urals crude, sources of the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation (EGPC) said Tuesday. The Soviet Union has cut prices by 90 cents to \$28.60 a barrel. The EGPC had fixed its Suez blend December prices at \$28.50.

Nigerian senate raises oil quota issue

LAGOS (R) — The Nigerian senate has again asked President Shehu Shagari to negotiate with the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to raise Nigeria's oil production quota from 1.3 million barrels per day (bpd) to two million, the Nigerian News Agency said Tuesday.

Official sources said a 12-bank advisory committee representing major creditor banks has recessed its talks in New York pending completion of a visit to Manila by

European Parliament likely to approve most of '84 budget

STRASBOURG (R) — The European Parliament Tuesday moved reluctantly towards approval of most of the Common Market's 1984 budget, despite a total lack of agreement on financial reform at last week's Athens summit.

Although disappointed at what Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou Tuesday called the overwhelming failure of the Athens European Community summit, parliamentarians are shying away from the idea of rejecting the budget in protest.

Negotiations between leaders of the European Parliament and national government representatives will determine the approach which the assembly's budget committee will take in its recommendations ahead of the final budget vote on Thursday.

Parliamentary sources said they were unlikely to suggest rejection of the budget even if consultations with the Council of Ministers produced few concessions to the assembly's demands for progress toward community financial reform.

Instead, the sources said the budget committee was unlikely to go further than seeking a renewed freeze on part or all of the budget rebates due to Britain and West Germany and to reinstate current and future spending proposals rejected already by the Council of Ministers.

The sources said budget committee chairman Mr. Erwin Lange

would like the European Parliament to take a harder line with the Council of Ministers, but the sources said the committee wanted to avoid the ignominy of seeing its recommendations overruled as happened in October when the parliament rejected an earlier British rebate.

At a meeting of the budget committee Tuesday morning, its spokeswoman Ms. Christiane Scrivenet (Liberal, France) asked budget commissioner Mr. Christopher Tugendhat to back an assembly demand that part of the 1984 community farm budget should also be frozen.

Parliamentary sources said Mr. Tugendhat was unenthusiastic, but said the commission hoped to decide in the next weeks on economic measures to cope with the tight farm budget outlook which will exist in the new year even if the budget is passed without significant amendment.

Mr. Robert Jackson (Britain, Conservative) said any freeze on farm spending could be rejected by the Council of Ministers, while the freeze on Britain's rebate could last, producing a discriminatory situation against a member state.

Argentina imposes controls

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina's new democratic government has imposed price controls, starting with a virtual 20-day freeze, as a first step to tackle the country's 400 per cent inflation rate.

Announcing the controls on all goods and services, Trade Secretary Ricardo Campero said Monday night most companies would be able to raise prices after 20 days if the government did not object.

But they would have to justify the price rises by showing costs had increased, and firms which had more than doubled prices since June 30 would be subject to especially close scrutiny.

Manila may have to extend debt moratorium

MANILA (R) — The Philippines might have to extend its current 90-day moratorium on debt repayments if the International Monetary Fund (IMF) does not approve a new financial package by Jan. 16, foreign banking sources said Tuesday.

Official sources said a 12-bank advisory committee representing major creditor banks has recessed its talks in New York pending completion of a visit to Manila by an IMF team to verify economic data submitted by the Philippines.

Foreign banking sources said approval of the package was unlikely before Jan. 16 and indicated there was a strong possibility Manila would have to seek an extension.

The Philippines requested the standstill in mid-October to give it a breather while a new financing programme was negotiated.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A whole new set of circumstances can start to be in effect for you, and you need to be alert to grasp them. Changes are in the wind. Meet travel and expansion plans half way.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be active and get those tasks handled that you have postponed. Show good sense and ability. Do nothing to jeopardize your good name.

T AURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Plan the future with expertise and get aid from confidantes. This is a good day for a marriage proposal. A fine day for romance.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A good day for seeing your finest friends who can bring you joy and pleasure. Avoid someone who is jealous of you.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Ideal day to pursue whatever is best for you in business and in the public eye. You may get a raise.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Go after your goals in a very positive way. Take time for Christmas shopping. Use common sense. Save fun for tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) A good day to handle business matters from an entirely new stance. Dine royally. Be romantic with the one you love.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Come to a meeting of minds with outside associates and improve your standing with them. This will bring public prestige.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A good day to come to better agreement with co-workers. Increase productivity. Be cautious around machinery to avoid accidents.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Plan recreations early to make you feel more cheerful. Your mate may be in a fine mood tonight so take advantage of this.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get into whatever will make life at home more comfortable. Entertain individuals who are vital to your welfare. Make a fine impression.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Renew acquaintances with individuals you admire but have lost track of. Be sure reports or statements are done first.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) The aspects are good for adding to your present holdings. Be practical. Search out an expert in financial affairs and get needed advice.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be a fascinating person who is planetarily gifted and, with the right education, could become famous. Talents are many and varied. Teach to finish one project before going on to another. This could be a musician.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword

by Alito Miccio

ACROSS	31 Like some barber shops	49 Roman bronze
1 Alerts	50 Engage in monkey-shines	51 Simple one
6 Bone prefix	32 Meaning	24 Pick-me-up
10 Pimpires	33 Guy's counterpart	25 Acid
14 An Arden	34 Holly	26 Function
15 Holly	35 Nick's wife	30 —ia—

ORLD

U.K. print union cancels national strike

LONDON (R) — Britain's most powerful print union called off a planned national strike Tuesday after a court ban and the threat of massive fines and claims for damages.

A spokesman said union leaders decided to suspend the strike at a crisis meeting at their headquarters in Bedford, central England.

The National Graphical Association had told its 132,000 members to strike for 24 hours to protest against fines totalling £675,000 (\$400,000) imposed under the Conservative government's new laws curbing union power.

The National Graphical Association (NGA), ordered Monday by a high court judge to call off a

The strike would have stopped publication of Wednesday's national newspapers and brought the rest of the industry to a halt for 24 hours from Wednesday morning.

Britain's trade union leadership split openly Tuesday over a powerful print union's defiance of the Conservative government's laws.

The National Graphical Association (NGA), ordered Monday by a high court judge to call off a

24-hour nationwide newspaper strike Wednesday, has sought to embroil the whole trade union movement in its struggle.

After a six-hour meeting Monday, the influential employment, policy and organisation committee of the Trades Union Congress (TUC) voted 4-7 to recommend support for the stoppage.

But the TUC's chief official, General Secretary Len Murray, angrily told reporters he would try to get the movement's executive body, the general council, to overturn the decision.

He said the committee had rejected his advice about the legal troubles involved and did not have the authority to go beyond the

council's decision to support only lawful activities.

The crisis meeting followed a flurry of legal moves with national paper groups seeking the enforcement of injunctions restraining the NGA from calling the strike and other regional proprietors seeking new writs to protect their businesses.

The NGA has already been fined a total of £700,000 (\$400,000) and had its £11 million (\$14.4 million) assets frozen for contempt of court.

This followed violent scenes last month on the picket lines outside the premises of a local newspaper group in northwest England with which it is in conflict over the sac-

king of six NGA men and its efforts to maintain 100 per cent union membership.

Mass picketing and sympathy strikes by workers not directly involved in a dispute are illegal under existing legislation pushed through by the Conservative Thatcher government.

National paper owners are claiming damages of £3 million (\$4.2 million) from the NGA because of a shutdown three weekends ago when NGA men in the London and Manchester, northern England, printing centres walked out in sympathy with their sacked colleagues.

Scottish 'witch' put on trial in Italy

LIVORNO, Italy (R) — Scenes of courtroom chaos marked the first day of the trial of Scottish nanny Carol Compton whose so-called supernatural powers have led to allegations of witchcraft.

Ms. Compton, 21, from Aberdeen, faces charges of attempted murder and arson that include setting fire to the cot of a three-year-old child she was minding.

She has denied the charges and dismissed accusations that she has paranormal powers.

Her case has been dubbed one of witchcraft by some Italian newsmen.

Defence lawyer Sergio Minervini had begun questioning her about reports that she could make electricity meters run wild and statues fall to the ground before the hearing was adjourned Monday.

When she first appeared in court within a locked cage more than 60 journalists and photographers scrambled over furniture and pushed police aside to get her.

Court President Guido Galligani stormed out of the court, returned when order was restored and later ordered a photographer expelled and his film confiscated.

Proceedings repeatedly ground to a halt as the court-appointed translator struggled to interpret.

Ms. Compton, who has been held for the past 16 months, told journalists when she appeared in court, "I'm glad to be on trial at last," adding that she was confident she would be acquitted.

U.K. unveils plans of pre-war fascist leader

LONDON (R) — Sir Oswald Mosley, leader of the 1930s British union of fascists, planned to deport all Jews and abolish elections if his movement had come to power, according to secret government records released recently.

The records include the transcript of an official wartime interrogation of Mr. Mosley in 1940 in which the fascist leader claimed that his anti-Semitism was spurred by Jewish opposition.

"I was compelled to look at the Jewish problem by their opposition to us, and, having looked at the Jewish problem, I developed what is called anti-Semitism," Mr. Mosley said.

He told his interrogator, Lord Birkett, that he wanted all Jews to leave Britain for a land of their own with foreigners and immigrants. "I would rather they all went," he said.

If his party had come to power it would have replaced normal elections with an occasional plebiscite in which Britons would simply be asked whether the government should carry on, he said.

The records, consisting of more than 1,000 files, were to have been withheld from the public for 100 years but were ordered released by Home Secretary Leon Brittan after pressure from Mr. Mosley's family and Members of Parliament.

An earlier batch of papers released last month dealt with British MI5 secret service infiltration of Mr. Mosley's movement in the 1930s and identified Italian dictator Benito Mussolini as his main financial backer.

Six files are still being kept secret.

The papers released Monday show that Mr. Mosley then courted newspaper proprietor Lord Rothermere and motor manufacturer Lord Nuffield among his influential British backers.

But Mr. Mosley said both men were "at colossal pains" to hide their links with the fascists, popularly known as the blackshirts, for fear of the harm it could do to their business.

JAKARTA (R) — A man skilled in the ancient Indonesian martial art of pencak silat kept a wild tiger at bay for half-an-hour before neighbours arrived and killed the animal, newspapers reported Tuesday. The papers said 31-year-old Achmad from West Sumatra was a master of silat, a fighting form which dates from before the 14th century and imitates the movements of animals, including the tiger. Indonesians also say it involves the use of magical powers. "But Achmad was clearly matched for the tiger," one paper said. He was saved by neighbours alerted by the tiger's roars and was admitted to hospital with tooth and claw injuries.

Great British fake paintings auctioned

LONDON (R) — A painter who once fooled British art experts with his fakes of the old masters has surprised them again by raising £72,000 (\$103,000) at a sale of his imitative works. Monday he watched impassively in a packed auction-room as 133 of his paintings in the style of Rembrandt, Renoir, Monet, Degas and other great artists came under the hammer. The top price of £5,500 (\$7,900) went for his version of Constable's "The Hay Wain," while a remarkable effort of Rembrandt seen drinking with Keating's mother fetched £2,000 (\$2,800).

"Gang of four member not dead"

PEKING (R) — A Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Tuesday denied press reports that Zhang Chunqiao, chief ideologue of the jailed "gang of four" radical leaders is dead. The London Times newspaper reported from Hong Kong last week that Mr. Zhang had died of cancer in prison. Asked to comment on the report, the foreign ministry spokesman said: "The news you referred to is not true. He is still alive."

Frenchwoman named as supreme court judge

PARIS (R) — France's socialist government has nominated a woman for the first time to preside over the highest court in the land. The supreme magistrature council meeting Monday named Simone Roze, 63, to succeed Robert Schencky as president of the Cour de Cassation, France's supreme court.

"Soviet newspapers should carry ads"

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet newspapers should start carrying advertisements to brighten up their appearance and finance larger editions, a Moscow magazine has declared. But the monthly magazine *Zhurnal* said an experiment in Soviet Latvia showed that advertisements helped newspapers make a profit, livened up their layout and provided funds for more pages. The journal made clear, however, that the advent of imaginative and eye-catching advertisements of the kind found in Western publications would be most unlikely.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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ANSWERS TO BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As Snubt, vulnerable, you hold:

♦QJ83 ♦95 ♦AK7 ♦A103

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

Pass Pass 3 ♦ ?

What action do you take?

A.—Almost surely, your side can defeat three spades. It is also possible that you can make three on trump. But what would you like to do about either possibility?

Partner is a passed hand. A double by you would be for takeout not penalties, and you have neither the shape nor the strength for that.

And to bid three on trump risks a substantial penalty if West, and not your partner, has most of the missing strength Pass.

Meanwhile, Mr. Nakasone Tue-

any side-suit first-round control but promises second-round control of clubs, probably the king.

Q.4—As South vulnerable, you hold:

♦K87 ♦AK53 ♦763 ♦962

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass

2 ♦ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—You have two-and-a-half quick tricks, but there the matter ends. You have a flat distribution and a hand ridged with losers. To make game impossible a simple raise of your suit by partner would require a miracle. Pass while you still have a chance for a plus score.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦A ♦KQJ107642 ♦93 ♦72

Partner opens the bidding with three spades. What action do you take?

A.—With eight tricks in your own hand, there is a distinct temptation to bid four bears. Suppress it! Since he made a non-vulnerable preempt, partner cannot possibly have two tricks for you. Also, there is a real danger that, if you bid four bears, partner will retreat to four spades, opening the door for a penalty double Pass.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦KQ1095 ♦A9107 ♦82 ♦K6

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

3 ♦ Pass 4 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?

A.—Partner has made a high reverse, showing a very good hand. However, because of your partial misfit you want to dampen his ardor a little. Bid three on trump. To bid the fourth suit were to show a hand much stronger than yours, since it is dollars to donuts that partner can't have a diamond fit.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦95 ♦7 ♦KQ8763 ♦AJ82

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

2 ♦ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—Beware of the probable misfit. If you bid three clubs now, it would be forcing to game, and you certainly don't have the strength for that.

Despite the fact that you want to bid again after starting with a two-over-one response, this hand is the exception. Pass. Any other action could get you into trouble.

Spanish communists begin congress today

MADRID (R) — Spain's crippled Communist Party begins a national congress Wednesday with two rival factions vying for power and warning of a mass exodus if the other side triumphs.

The struggle between supporters of Secretary General Gerardo Iglesias and former leader Santiago Carrillo threatens to turn the five-day congress here into the most divisive in the party's 63-year history.

The 11th congress takes place against a backdrop of bitter ideological rows, a slump in party membership and an electoral rout last year which left the communists with just four seats in parliament.

At stake are the future of the party and possibly the survival of Eurocommunism, the doctrine of independence from Moscow.

Mr. Iglesias, 38, favours continued commitment to Eurocommunism and also seeks to broaden the base of the Spanish party, making it more democratic and open to members purged by Mr. Carrillo.

Mr. Carrillo, 68, one of the founding fathers of Eurocommunism, has increasingly turned towards Moscow and is demanding a hard line. He claims Mr. Iglesias, who replaced him as leader last November, has become a Social Democrat and betrayed communism.

First indications of the likely outcome of the congress are expected on Thursday when delegates vote on Mr. Iglesias's report.

Polish priest not heard from after questioning

WARSAW (R) — A Catholic priest summoned by the Polish authorities for questioning Monday because of his outspoken criticisms of communism has not returned home, church sources said Tuesday.

Court and government officials refused to discuss the case of Father Jerzy Popieluszko or whether he had been arrested. The authorities have the right to hold suspects for 48 hours without charge.

A diocesan official said Father Popieluszko had gone to the prosecutor's office at the Warsaw provincial court only after the government assured the church he would not be harmed.

Father Popieluszko has been under investigation by judicial authorities for possible abuse of religious freedom as a result of his support for the banned Solidarity free trade union and condonement of martial law.

Controversial sermons delivered at his Warsaw church regularly attract congregations of up to 5,000. He is one of a number of priests threatened with prosecution and has frequently led prayers for people killed or reprieved under Poland's political system.

Father Popieluszko refused to answer three previous summons for questioning and resisted attempts by 10 policemen to remove him from his rectory earlier this month.

Ershad's appeal rejected

DHAKA (R) — Prominent opposition leader Sheik Hasina Wazed Tuesday rejected an appeal for talks by Bangladesh's military ruler Hossain Mohammad Ershad and demanded an end to his ban on politics.

Sheik Hasina, daughter of assassinated President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, was freed from house arrest at the weekend as part of Gen. Ershad's initiative to hasten the return of democracy by setting up talks with his opponents.

Asked if she would agree to meet Gen. Ershad, she said: "Of course not. What for? I would

want to know first what the talks are about. The restrictions must be lifted. How can we have politics without political activity?"

She told Reuters in an interview that demands of several opposition parties for an end to the ban on politics, the release of all political detainees and the holding of immediate elections had not been dropped.

Gen. Ershad told newsmen the ban would remain and that no decision had been taken to change plans to hold presidential elections in May next year ahead of parliamentary polls.

COLUMN 8

Drowned Briton may have been drugged

BREST, France (R) — British businessman Niall Campbell, found drowned near a top secret French nuclear submarine base here earlier this month, may have been drugged.

Mr. Campbell, a 42-year-old financial expert with the Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) combine, was found on the shoreline at Brest on Dec. 2. He had been in Paris on a business trip and was last seen alive leaving his hotel for a shopping trip. French press reports said his death may have been connected with espionage activities but France's counter-espionage agency, the DST, has denied any spying was involved. Public prosecutor Andre Courteau said: "Experts have determined he died from drowning. There are signs of a blow to the left temple but we do not know if this was before death, by a blow, or after death, by hitting rocks."

Martial arts expert grapples with tiger

JAKARTA (R) — A man skilled in the ancient Indonesian martial art of pencak silat kept a wild tiger at bay for half-an-hour before neighbours arrived and killed the animal, newspapers reported Tuesday.

The papers said 31-year-old Achmad from West Sumatra was a master of silat, a fighting form which dates from before the 14th century and imitates the movements of animals, including the tiger. Indonesians also say it involves the use of magical powers.

"But Achmad was clearly matched for the tiger," one paper said.

Achmad was saved by neighbours alerted by the tiger's roars and was admitted to hospital with tooth and claw injuries.

Six files are still being kept secret.